

Jesus Christ was the fullest, richest, deepest, most complete human being who ever existed, and he never had sexual relations with anyone. There are other dimensions to our nature that are infinitely more precious and more crucial to our humanity than the screaming force of sexual impulses, which silence other voices and deceive us into thinking that this impulse must be gratified...modern men and women almost inevitably have absorbed distorted, deceptive, disproportionate views of sexuality.

John Piper

Christians have always acknowledged two routes for embodying faithfulness in a way that the world can see. We've always had these two routes for publicly declaring—and displaying—that God is faithful. The first route is celibate singleness; the second is faithful marriage. In both conditions, Christians testify, with their bodies, to the power of God.

Beth Felker Jones

from *Faithful, a Theology of Sex*

Our early Christian ancestors did not confess biblical chastity in a safe culture that naturally agreed with them. The sexual morality they taught and practiced stood out as unnatural to the Roman world... Christian sexual ethics that limited intercourse to the marriage of a man and a woman were not merely different from Roman ethics; they were utterly against Roman ideals of virtue and love.

Matthew Reuger

from *Sexual Morality in a Christless World*

# RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## T U S C A L O O S A , A L A B A M A

November 24, 2019 • 10:30 Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**  
Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder Jimmy Hopper  
Dr. Linda Graham, piano

### WELCOME

*Program all communication devices to be in silent mode. Thank you.*

### PRELUDE

*We Gather, We Praise* arr. Ruth E. Schram  
*Please use this time for prayer and meditation as we prepare to go before the living God in worship.*

## PRAISE

### CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 99 & 114*

Pastor: The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!  
All: **He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth quake!**  
Pastor: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,  
who turns the rock into a pool of water,  
the flint into a spring of water.  
All: **Exalt the Lord our God; worship at his footstool!  
Holy is he!**  
Pastor: Come, let us worship.

**HYMN OF PRAISE: 100** “Holy, Holy, Holy!”

### PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.*

# CONFESSION

---

**SCRIPTURE READING:** *Hosea 4:1-3*

<sup>1</sup>Hear the word of the Lord, O children of Israel, for the Lord has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land. There is no faithfulness or steadfast love, and no knowledge of God in the land; <sup>2</sup>there is swearing, lying, murder, stealing, and committing adultery; they break all bounds, and bloodshed follows bloodshed. <sup>3</sup>Therefore the land mourns, and all who dwell in it languish, and also the beasts of the field and the birds of the heavens, and even the fish of the sea are taken away.

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God!

**CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:**

**Pastor:** “Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up” (Hosea 6:1).

**All:** Heavenly Father, we confess and sing that you are holy and perfect in righteousness. You are faithful and steadfast in love but we are not. Have mercy on us. Forgive us for the sinful ways we use our mouths, for swearing and lying. Forgive us for failing to love our neighbors, for resenting others and seeking to take what isn't ours. Forgive us for our lustful thoughts and actions, for failing to guard our minds and our bodies by fleeing from temptation. Holy Spirit, enable us to repent, turning away from our sin and pursuing a new path of obedience. We ask this in the name of Jesus, amen.

**SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD:** *based on Romans 3:23-26*

**Pastor:** Lift up your heads and hear the good news. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. By faith in Jesus Christ you are justified, you are redeemed, and you are forgiven.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Pastor:** This salvation reveals God's righteousness, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.  
The peace of Christ be with you all.

**All:** And also with you.

# Heal Us, Emmanuel

Cowper, Twit, Morton



Heal us, Emmanuel here we are. We long to feel your



touch. Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly; O,



Savior hear our cry.

1. Our faith is feeble we con-
2. Remember him who once ap-
3. She, too, who touched you in the
4. Like her, with hopes and fears we



fess. We faintly trust Thy word; But  
plied, with trembling for relief, "Lord,  
press, and healing virtue stole, was  
come to touch you if we may; O



will you pity us the less?  
I be-lieve," with tears he cried;  
answered "Daughter, go in peace;  
send us not despair-ing home;



Be that far from you, Lord.  
"O help my un-belief."  
thy faith has made thee whole."  
send none un-healed away.

# COMMITMENT

---

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

*Count Your Blessings*

arr. Faye Lopez

Presentation of tithes & offerings

DOXOLOGY (Hymnal, page 731)

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

*Heidelberg Catechism, Question and Answer #1*

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

People: **That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

RESPONSE: 735 “Gloria Patri”

## MISSIONS MOMENT

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: 330 “Holy Ghost, Dispel Our Sadness”

# PREACHING OF THE WORD

---

SCRIPTURE: *1 Corinthians 6:9-20*

<sup>9</sup>Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup>And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. <sup>12</sup>“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything.

*(continued on the next page)*



# TODAY AT RIVERWOOD

---

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

### DINNER ON THE GROUNDS & WE GIVE THANKS

After church this morning, everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for dinner on the grounds. Riverwood's annual We Give Thanks service will directly follow the meal. Join us as we give thanks and break bread together.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

### HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

November 28 Bob Prince

### ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree is now in the foyer of the sanctuary. Please pray for this ministry and consider participating in this program by doing one or all of the following: 1) Purchasing presents (one clothing and one toy item) for a child from the tree, 2) Providing non-perishable food items, and 3) Participating in the Angel Tree Christmas Party on December 15. There will be a link in your email announcements this week to sign up to help with the party. Angel Tree gifts are due in the foyer or the church office by Dec. 11. You can provide food for the baskets until Dec. 15. Questions? Contact Joann Williams.

### CHRISTMAS CRAFT AND FUN DAY

Children 5-12 years old - join us in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 14, from 9:30am-12:30pm. We will have crafts, games, Christmas story, music, and great food. Invite a friend to spend the morning with us! Please prayerfully consider participating in this program by (1) providing food, (2) helping with crafts, or (3) helping with any of the tasks that need to be completed prior to the 14th. There will be a sign-up link in your weekly announcement email this Tuesday. For more information, contact Joann Williams.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, December 8: Combined Sunday School: Sam & Marykathryn Maertens

Wednesday, December 11, 6:30pm: Session & Diaconate Meeting

Sunday, December 15: Angel Tree Party

Sunday, December 29: Deacon's Fund Offering

Friday-Saturday, January 24-25: Parenting Conference

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

---

At Riverwood Presbyterian Church we have Sunday School at 9:30am for all age groups.

**MEETING DOWNSTAIRS:**

Nursery: Multi-Staffed  
2-3 year olds: Janalie Graham & Joanie Norris  
4-5 year olds: Lorrie Pate

**MEETING UPSTAIRS:**

Grades 1-3: Lisa Kidder  
Grades 4-6: Ginny Nippert

**MEETING IN THE BARN:**

Youth Class: Ben & Meg Sigmon

**MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:**

Adult Class - *The Providence of God* by R. C. Sproul - led by elders

**MEETING IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING:**

Adult Class - *Every Good Endeavor* by Tim Keller - led by Gene Martin

## MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

---

**NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:**

November 24: Michael Henry / Vielyana Kim / Bruce & Mickey DeHaan / Quay Finch  
December 1: Michael Henry / Lorrie Pate / Gracen Miller & Eli Bell / Meredith Patridge

**NOVEMBER DEACON SCHEDULE:**

Head Deacon: Tom Arnold  
Clean Up: Bruce DeHaan

## FINANCIAL REPORT

---

*Through October 2019:*

Operating Income:	\$351,222.46
Operating Expense*:	\$351,002.89
Net Income:	\$219.57
Designated gifts:	\$93,338.55
Building loan balance:	\$809,445.46

*\*Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*